

**Agenda Item:** I.A.5.**DATE:** January 29, 2004**SUBJECT:** Nashville State Technical Community College, Technical Certificate  
in Industrial Automation**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** As a result of low productivity, the A.A.S. in Manufacturing Engineering Technology program was recently terminated. Currently, the proposed certificate is a concentration in the Engineering Technology A.A.S. degree. Upon approval, the concentration will be terminated and personnel, students and resources will be shifted from the concentration to the technical certificate. The proposed certificate is designed to provide an opportunity for employed technicians to gain college credit while updating their skills in the area of Automated Controls.

**PROPOSED START-UP DATE:** Upon approval

Commission staff have reviewed the program proposal according to the academic standards adopted by the Commission on November 14, 2002. Each standard is referenced below.

**1.1.20A MISSION:** The proposed program is consistent with the mission of the college. "To serve a diverse geographic service area, providing high-quality education and training opportunities to meet the needs of the community."

**1.1.20B CURRICULUM:** The curriculum for the proposed certificate was developed with input from local industry and the Nashville and Cookeville Center Advisory Committees. Several courses were specifically designed to meet the needs of Cookeville industrial partners, where specific industry demands are greater than in Nashville. The proposed curriculum of 30 semester hours requires no new courses.

<b>Projected Program Productivity</b>		
Student Projections	FTE Enrollment	Graduates
Year 1	14	0
Year 2	14	15
Year 3	15	18

**1.1.20C ACADEMIC STANDARDS:** Students applying to the certificate must meet the College's general requirements as stated in the catalog. Students successfully completing all requirements will be awarded the technical certificate.

**1.1.20D FACULTY:** Current faculty are adequate for the proposed certificate.

**1.1.20E LIBRARY RESOURCES:** No additional library resources are required to support the proposed certificate.

**1.1.20F ADMINISTRATION/ORGANIZATION:** The proposed certificate will be housed in the Division of Business and Technologies.

**1.1.20G SUPPORT RESOURCES:** None indicated.

**1.1.20H FACILITIES/INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT:** Current facilities and instructional equipment are adequate to support the proposed certificate.

**1.1.20I STUDENT/EMPLOYER DEMAND:** Local industrial clients seek to hire skilled workers that hold the Technical Certificate in Industrial Automation, rather than an Associate's degree. Interviews with advisory committees and industry personnel also support the need for training that is offered by this certificate. The Nashville/Cookeville area employs approximately 77,500 production workers according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Students will still have an option for the A.A.S. in General Technology.

**1.1.20J NO UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION:** The proposed technical certificate is offered within the service area of Nashville State Technical Community College and does not duplicate programs.

**1.1.20K COOPERATIVE INSTITUTIONS:** None indicated.

**1.1.20L DESEGREGATION:** The program will not impede the state's effort to achieve racial diversity.

**1.1.20M ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION:** There is no accreditation agency for this certificate and the proposed certificate has no SACS implications. Program evaluation will be based on student, alumni and employer surveys and job placement rates.

**1.1.20N ARTICULATION:** Students interested in a degree program in this area can articulate the certificate into the A.A.S. degree in General Technology.

**1.1.20O EXTERNAL JUDGMENT (Graduate Programs):**

**1.1.20P COST/BENEFIT/SOURCE:** No additional costs are associated with the proposed program. Reallocations are made possible by the low producing A.A.S. in Manufacturing Engineering Technology and concentration in Engineering Technology that will be terminated upon approval of the proposed certificate. The proposed program is designed to meet the industry demands for skilled workers in the Nashville/Cookeville service area.

**1.1.30 POST APPROVAL MONITORING:** An annual performance review of the proposed program will be conducted for the first three years following approval. The

review will be based on established goals contained in the proposal. A summative evaluation will be required in the third year.